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NOTE VERBALE DATED 1 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT

The Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and transmits herewith the interview of President Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, with the correspondent of CNN. The Mission requests that the interview should be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Annex

FULL TEXT OF THE INTERVIEW OF PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN WITH THE AMERICAN TELEVISION STATION CNN

The American television station CNN has conducted an interview with President Saddam Hussein, lasting 90 minutes, in which various aspects of the American aggression against Iraq were discussed; the interview was broadcast yesterday.

The following is the full text of the interview.

Question: There are reports of Iraqi planes leaving Iraq for Iran; can you give any reasons for that?

Answer: Regardless of the figures which you have been hearing and of which we are unaware, the main thing is that Iraq and Iran are neighbouring Muslim countries. Regardless of the cirumstances of the past, these considerations will remain paramount in the relationship between the two countries. Since the battle is now a battle between believers and unbelievers, between good and evil, between justice and fairness on the one hand and injustice, domination and aggression on the other hand, do not expect that a single Islamic country will not be part of such a battle. In this spirit and against this background, it is only natural, if some of Iraq's aircraft found themselves forced to land in one Islamic country or another, that they should do so.

Question: Will those aircraft be used in the present war? Will they return to Iraq?

Answer: Iraq respects under all circumstances the laws and will of the State of Iran.

The oil spill

Question: On the subject of the oil flowing into the Gulf, you say that the West and America are the cause of the oil spill. America says that it did not make any intentional strikes with that aim. It has also been said that you are the one who opened the pipelines. Is that what actually happened?

Answer: The American Administration cannot claim that it has been forced to do this, or that it has done this in exercise of the right of self-defence. Therefore, whenever military field commanders have used oil as a means of legitimate self-defence or defence of the country in one place or another, this has taken the form of filling trenches with oil which is then ignited, or through other means, and they have been justified in doing so, and this is the picture which obtains at present.

Question: Then you confirm that the oil was not spilled into the Gulf, but was leaked as a tactical move?

Answer: I did not say that. I said that America had used oil and that it had not admitted doing so, that the facts, which cannot be denied, are that America attacked oil tankers loaded with oil, that it knew they were loaded with oil, that when that oil flowed over the country it would cause the damage it did, that those tankers, when attacked, were in Iraqi territorial waters; I said that America had also attacked pipelines and that it had publicly announced its attacks against the oil terminals, which are in Iraqi territorial waters. The American specialists know that when they attack the oil terminals they destroy the pipelines to those terminals and that the oil spills into Iraqi territorial waters. They have not been forced to do this. If the Iraqis have used oil for defence purposes and even if we have used it for development, this is justifiable. Time will tell what America is responsible for and what Iraq is responsible for.

Oil as a weapon

Question: So you are saying that you have the right to use oil as a military weapon in the war?

Answer: I said what I said.

Question: Another matter on the minds of many is that you have stated that you have decided to use prisoners of war as shields against attacks. The West says that this is contrary to the Geneva Convention and international law. Will you continue to do so?

Answer: What we have stated is an official declaration. In any case, there are still those in the West who speak of violations of the law. Take this example which I shall give you: do you remember what happened when it was announced that Iraq would detain the foreigners in order to prevent war? Do you remember what was being said about our decision at that time? It was said that it was an immoral, illegal and inhuman decision. The West spoke of humanitarianism, and some of the Western leaders affected an idealistic attitude towards the people, who had not sufficiently perceived their true nature. Do you remember that?! Do you know what those very same people who criticized those decisions of ours are now doing?! Do you know that they are detaining Iraqis? They are even detaining students who have gone to study in the West, and have announced their detention publicly!! Do you know the restrictions that have been placed on Americans of Arab origin, and on Iraqis who have acquired Western nationalities, people of Iraqi and Arab origin?! In many Western countries there are a number of people who previously had Arab nationalities and who have acquired Western nationalities, and yet since the war, stringent measures have been applied to them in violation of the laws of their countries, including your country America. Is this not opportunistic?! Have you noticed how many lies have been exposed? Have you noticed how many of the shameful acts of the West we have exposed in the short space of the past 10 days? Rest assured, we feel that you in the West need to remain steadfast and to reject this arrogance which emanates from your leaders. We feel that the human being within you, your humanity as Americans and as citizens, your humanity as Frenchmen in the West, your humanity as Britons is in need of our stance in rejecting domination and opportunism more than it is in need of the decisions of dominance and double

standards which are emanating from these and other centres. The world needs someone to tell the one who carries the biggest stick in the world that the stick which is in your hand cannot destroy the house of God, nor can it destroy the humanity of mankind. This is what you are now in need of. You do not need to know how many women and children in Iraq your planes can kill. You are people, and people do not need this. But Bush, or the devil within Bush, is in need of this.

Question: And yet you say that you are prepared to apply the Geneva Conventions to the prisoners?

Answer: Does the Geneva Convention stipulate that Iraqi students should be imprisoned?! Such are the double standards which obtain in the country which calls itself the number one country in the world. It urges the small countries, which it calls countries of the third world, to apply the law, while it considers itself to be above the law.

Bush a liar

Question: I believe you have visited the front. We have seen pictures of you there. Could you tell us your feeling about conditions on the front?

Answer: Men are believers, and they will stand firm. I think that Bush knows that, and this is shown by the fact that he did not move against those men. Rather, he came to kill women and children in Baghdad. Was not he the one who told you in America that he was going to get the Iraqi army out of Kuwait? Do you now see that he is a liar? Not to mention the other facts you have discovered about him?! I do not wish to direct criticism at anyone; I am merely using definitions which are found in the dictionary: he who is not truthful is called a liar. The Iraqi army is present in Kuwait. Certainly, you as Americans imagined that the attack would be launched against the army. The attack began on the night of 16-17 January. However, it did not begin against the armed forces in the nineteenth province. Rather, it began in Baghdad. It did not begin against the military forces. Rather, they launched it against scientific and economic sites. Surely, you as a journalist remember the announcement by the White House that nuclear power in Iraq had been destroyed. Did you not ask yourself why? Therefore, the battle was not for Kuwait. Rather, it was for other reasons, for the same reasons which the American Administration used to induce the rulers of Kuwait to conspire against Iraq when they were still there. They are the same reasons which made the United States Administration decide to prevent grain and food from reaching Iraq five months before the events. They are the same reasons which led the United States Administration to call for a technical and scientific boycott of Iraq over five months before the events of 2 August. Unfortunately, the ordinary American citizen was unable to put together the whole series of measures adopted by the United States Administration against Iraq before the events of 2 August and draw the same conclusions which we had drawn before that date. Therefore, Bush was able to lie to American public opinion. However, we shall help you to unmask the liars with these truths which are now revealed. President Bush cannot deny that he launched the war against scientific and economic installations and not against the army in Kuwait. This mission has been confirmed by the pilots' logbooks. And you as media people were in Baghdad and know that.

Question: It seems that your eight-year-long war on the Iranian front has stood you in good stead and that this war has not affected you as much as was expected.

Answer: This is what we said and warned about before the war was launched. Surely you remember the length of time they were talking about. I heard it said on the radio that some were talking about 24 hours and that others were talking about 72 hours. Whether it is a matter of hours, days, months or years, blood is being shed. No matter whose blood it is, it is human blood. We were trying to spare mankind this bloodshed. Therefore, we stated the facts clearly and openly. Our people do not want war; they believe that dialogue is the way to save mankind from wars. But we have said that once war starts, you should not imagine that it will be a war of hours, days or weeks. In any case, when it starts, much blood will be shed. We have also said that we do not want this. It is not our purpose to drag any of the world leaders into war, because their calculations are bound to fail.

Question: Allied military experts say that you are able to withstand heavy bombing. How have your soldiers managed to survive this bombing?

Answer: Do you remember what the Western leaders, including President Bush, were saying? They were saying that they would enter the war without a single American being wounded! Has this been true? We are still at the beginning; there have only been 10 days. Has the American wish been fulfilled? How will it be when the all-out war starts?! Those who were wrong in their assessment of this war should reply to the questions of the peoples and public opinion. Whoever attacks the men in Kuwait will be beaten. And if you ask me how, you will get the same reply. I tell you the question now is not who has arms. The issue is who will be beaten. Whose side is the devil on and whose side is God on? Quite simply, who has come thousands of kilometres against whose homes? Who has come to occupy the land of the holy sites of the other? The answer is clear. Do you think the pilots who have come to bomb Baghdad from high altitudes, not knowing where the bombs will land, do you think they are happy? I have seen them on television. Of course, more have been killed than have appeared on television. That is only natural. You know that in such cases the proportion of survivors is roughly one fifth. When the time comes when you start receiving the bodies of your sons you will discover other facts. I have asked those who have seen them face-to-face, "Did you not ask them 'Do you not regret what you have done?'" They said they had. I asked them this question, and what was the answer? They said that some of them were crying. Some of them were in a bad way; I do not want to speak of the state they were in. If I were to go with you to see our anti-aircraft-gun crews you would see how proud each one is of what he is doing to defend Iraq and its values. Especially on the first, second, third and fourth days, bombs were raining down on them, but not a single Iraqi deserted the arms with which he was fighting the aircraft. You can be sure what the ground battle will be like if the enemy armies are thinking of attacking the men in the nineteenth province. It only remains to ask every honest Westerner one question. You must remember the background of events before 2 August, from 2 August to the night of 16-17 January and then after the outbreak of war on the night of 16-17 January. How is it possible for a people of 18 million to withstand all this evil aggressive might? You are bound to arrive at a simple answer, which is that if this people were not assured of the rightness of its stance it would not

stand up to this tyrannical might. Does not such a phenomenon attract the attention of those who seek the truth? If it does, they will be guided to a solution through dialogue and not through war. And in doing so many truths will be revealed.

Question: What level of dialogue are you talking about?

Answer: I talk with peoples, not with the American President. I am talking to you as an ordinary citizen. I am talking about genuine dialogue with people, not with potent aggressors. Because we as a people shall remain. As for others, they must bear the burden of their evil. I am speaking about the humanitarian laws which must govern relations between peoples.

Question: What do you say to the leaders and peoples who want a peaceful solution? What about dialogue?

Answer: You should put that question to Bush yourself. Bush has used dialogue as a tactic. You know that we are the ones who proposed dialogue. He refused. Then he suddenly appeared on television and said that he wanted dialogue. It was immediately apparent to us that he had decided on war and that his new talk of dialogue was no more than a cover so that he could tell those who were saying "You have not exhausted the path of dialogue" that he had tried dialogue, that it had not led to any results, and that he had no choice but war. This is just as we said. Everthing we have said since 2 August up to now has come true. When we said that keeping foreigners and preventing them from leaving would avert war, what were the Western political charlatans saying? They were saying that keeping the Westerners and preventing them from leaving would be a cause of war. If the Westerners left that would avert war. Now the matter is over and we do not regret any decision which we have taken, because we do not take any decision unless we are convinced. If the 5,000 Westerners and Japanese were still in Iraq, would Bush be striking Baghdad?! We were not afraid to take the decision to allow the Westerners to leave. Events have shown that we were not afraid; we took the decision out of respect for public opinion and simple, ordinary citizens, not for the politicians, because ordinary citizens do not confuse the issue. We allowed them all to leave so that our battle would be clean, and the issue would not be confused. I have disclosed this to you, and I shall also reveal to you that some politicians are playing a game of double standards and intelligence-gathering, rather than a statesmanlike role.

The land war

Question: What about the land war and when will it take place?

Answer: In any case, the war is already on. Why should we speak about the land war or other types of war? What has been achieved so far? Has Bush won? I say he hasn't. I say he lost from the very moment he took the decision to go to war. I see that you are embarrassed about this, and if I were in your place I would feel embarrassed too. I am sure that every American is now embarrassed deep down, and as the war goes on this embarrassment will turn to pain and the pain will

turn to revolt against the leaders who have deceived him. An American is a human being and he will ask himself a specific question: Are these the values of the great country that is America?! Are these the values of which Bush speaks and which he desires for the United States?! He is mobilizing and sending his army to attack a people of 18 million across the Atlantic, across the oceans. Are you still a great country? Do you feel that you are still a great country at a time when you are collecting money to support your army which you have sent to attack us?! Are you proud that the President of the greatest country is bragging that he has come to attack a people of 18 million?! These are the factors which now make the American Administration defeated from within. From the moment it decided to go to war, America was defeated, and these factors have made it fall from the status as a super-Power.

The length of the war

Question: How long do you expect the land war to last?

Answer: Only God knows how long it will last. But one thing of which we are convinced, as I have said, deep in our hearts and minds, is that the Iraqis will fight in a way that will win the admiration of the human being which is inside Americans. Much blood will be shed. Much blood has already been shed. But of course the officials who have decided on this aggression do not ask how many Iraqis will be martyred by it. I followed their statements before the military aggression, and not one of the top officials spoke of his desire not to spill Iraqi blood. They were trying to make their parliaments believe that there would be no American casualties, or if there were, that they would be very few, or that there would be no British casualties or no French casualties, and if there were, they would be very few, and so on.

Question: What blood are you talking of?

Answer: When we say that much blood will be shed we mean French blood, American blood, Saudi blood, the blood of all those taking part in the fighting, not just Iraqi blood.

Do not be fooled by the politicians

Question: The American leadership says that it has won the air phase of the war. What do you say?

Answer: Once again, do not be fooled by the politicians. They are dividing up the battle for you and speaking of the air battle and then they say wait until the land battle starts. War is war and it has begun and you must count the days, weeks and months and ask them: Did you not say that the war would be a matter of days? You have miscalculated just as you miscalculated before.

Chemical weapons

Question: Will you use chemical weapons in the war?

Answer: I have said that we will use weapons equivalent to the weapons used against us, and in any case it will be in defence of our country, Iraq, within all its borders from Zakho to the sea.

It is Israel which is attacking Baghdad!

Question: Were you disappointed that Israel did not respond to the missiles fired against it? Why did you fire Scud missiles at residential districts in Tel Aviv and Saudi Arabia?

Answer: The forces which are attacking Baghdad are those of Israel. If it weren't for zionism which has played its role in the corridors of the White House and goaded your army into such acts, you as an American would not have come here. Why would America take the decision to withhold food from the Iraqis five months before the events of August if it were not for zionism?! The enemy of Iraq! This battle is the battle of zionism, but zionism is fighting with American blood. And if it has not yet used arms it is because it wants to remain master of the situation after the war is over. But zionism is fighting us. If it weren't for zionism, you wouldn't have come to occupy the Kaaba and the tomb of the Prophet Muhammad and to come into confrontation with the Muslims as a whole and to attack Baghdad. We shall not be deceived by appearances. You may remember that we said if Baghdad were attacked we would attack Tel Aviv. Thus we say to the enemies in Tel Aviv that we know the whole game and we say to them: Leave the land of Palestine; stop slaughtering the Palestinians. Israel is occupying the land of us Arabs, it is occupying the land of Palestine, it is occupying the Golan, it is occupying a part of Lebanon. It is therefore an occupier and an aggressor against the Arabs. This is the message of the missiles, the reason for them and their meaning.

"Al-Hussein" and "Al-Abbas"

As we have said, why are you so sensitive about calling things by their names. The Russian Scud missile has a range of 270 kilometres. What we have is an Iraqi missile called "Al-Hussein". We also have its brother, "Al-Abbas", with a range of approximately 1,000 kilometres. It has been developed for use at distances which suit us. Some specialists are sensitive about this name. I do not mean ordinary Americans, but rather specialists who know that the name "Al-Hussein" reminds them of our ancestor who fought corruption and tyranny with only 70 men. How should we, who are now millions, not fight tyranny?! This sensitivity is because when you remember Al-Hussein you must remember the 70 men and you will certainly remember that the Iraqis are today 18 millions and they are capable of fighting endlessly until right triumphs over wrong.

Question: What weapons does the "Al-Hussein" missile carry?

Answer: It can carry nuclear, chemical or biological warheads.

Question: Will you use these weapons?

Answer: I have said that we will use weapons equivalent to those used against us. We are people who remember the values of our ancestors. This is an occasion on which to remember one's ancestral values. Despite all this air superiority, we have not been shaken and we have not departed in our behaviour from the "balanced course". I hope that not too much blood will be shed. We hope that we will not be forced into that.

Battle secrets

Question: Why do you have restrictions on publishing details of the battle?

Answer: The Americans are now imposing restrictions on you, on news about the troops in Saudi Arabia, and even simple details about the course of operations are being restricted. This is in a democratic country, as it is called in America! How do you expect that in a dictatorship (as you call us), we Iraqis should divulge such secrets? What is important to us is that, with every hour that the faith and self-confidence of individual Iraqis are put to the test, they become more and more convinced by additional factors that right is on their side. As long as the people have faith, they will give of their best. None of what has been destroyed or will be destroyed was donated to us by anyone. We built it through long hours of work, great patience and strong morals. When I say "we" I mean the Iraqis. We are one. And when the Iraqis say "we" they mean ordinary citizens together with the leadership.

I have no doubt of victory

Question: Do you have any doubts about the outcome of the battle?

Answer: Not one in a million. I want to make one thing clear. When we called it "the mother of battles" we were not referring to the pages of military history, because they had not yet been written. It was called that because right is clearly distinguished from wrong and because we believe that God is with us. Is there any battle greater than one in which God Almighty is the leader on the one side, and where Satan is on the other side?! Please note - America, the super-Power, Great Britain (I am using the names which you yourselves constantly repeat), France, a great Power - who have the countries of massive weaponry, together with the countries of dirty money, ganged up against? Against Iraq!! After such a description can anyone believe that God is not with us?! Whoever has God on his side will not be vanquished. God, who brought the elephant into the Kaaba and then let it be vanquished, is capable of smashing all the armies of the invaders.

A word to the Americans

Question: What would you like to say to the Americans?

Answer: It suffices us to say that what has happened is what we believe in. I want you to tell the Americans that we wish them well, that we do not wish a single one of their sons to die. All Iraqis are grateful to the Americans of good will who have come out to demonstrate in America against the war and to the kind-hearted noble citizens of good will in France, Germany, Spain, Italy and everywhere, in Britain. We follow with interest this noble humanitarian movement which has sprung up against the aggressive policy being plotted in the corridors of power at the instigation of criminal zionism. All Iraqis, including the wounded children in the Iraqi hospitals which have been bombarded by the armies of the West, follow this with great interest. We will make a clear distinction between the evil decision of the administrations which have fallen under the influence of zionism and the attitude of the peoples. As we pledged to God, so we pledge to our people, to the sons of our nation, we pledge to people of good will in America, Europe, Japan and the Soviet Union, in the whole world, in the so-called advanced countries and in the so-called third world, we pledge that we shall not forget the noble souls who will discover day after day that they are right in rejecting the oppression that is falling on them, on our people and on our nation. I am happy to have met you and I thank you for listening to me with an open mind.

Thank you very much.

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 1 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to transmit herewith the text of communiqué No. 31, dated 31 January 1991, which was issued by the Iraq Military Command, and requests that the text of this note and its annex be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Annex

Statement dated 31 January 1991 by the Iraqi Military Command

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate,

"Victory comes from God alone; our victory is nigh."

O great Iraqi people,

O Saudi people,

O people of the Nejd and the noble Hijaz,

Men of the land, wherever you may be,

We did not wish for this conflict, we swear to God, but Fahd the traitor, the American agent, wished it, and he made the Holy Places and the site of the revelation into a theatre of operations for the infidel despots. He has profaned the Holy Places, he has profaned the land and those who live on it and he has committed his perfidious crime, he and God's enemy, Bush, and both of them daily carry out aerial bombings to attack the faithful and steadfast people of Iraq. They kill not only the valiant and conscientious sons of Iraq but women and children as well. The aggressors have been amazed by the number of their own aircraft. They have so persisted in their crime that they have become drunk with perfidy and murder, and their madness has reached the same level as their aircraft. Their aggression has become obvious and their crime abominable in the eyes of all Muslims and the world, and we have had to call upon the faithful in order to face the most refined technologies. O Iraqis, your valiant ground forces have finally advanced. O Arabs, O Muslims, who believe in the truth, your valiant ground forces have advanced to teach the aggressors a lesson. Your forces have launched a stunning ground attack, glorifying God's name, and the infidel armies have been crushed. Your forces have advanced, provoking general flight amongst the enemy. God has put his curse on sin and the infidels, and our units have penetrated 20 kilometres into the territory of the Kingdom where the enemy dwells, into the iniquitous Saudi Kingdom: our forces have succeeded in penetrating the coastal town of Khafji during this night. By causing the infidel front to crumble on the land He has blessed, God has given the faithful a great victory so that they may continue to defend His faith and sing His praises.

O people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, people of the Nejd and of the Hijaz, we have no designs on your land. We are your brothers and you are ours. We form a single army against the infidels, against crime and corruption, against the troops of Fahd and Bush and their treacherous agents. You must not view our arrival as an occupation. It is the fight against the infidel armies and against the aggression they have perpetrated from your land that has brought us to you.

The real nature of the enemy and of the aggression will not cause us to forget that we are your brothers and that you are ours. This relationship is permanent and transcends any ambition or gain. It will continue to transcend the material possessions of this life and all the ambitions to which the weak in intellect or spirit aspire. We are motivated by the same causes that inspire you: the desire to please the divine will, the right to self-defence and the noble principles which are shared by all Muslims, all believers and all noble Arabs, whom you are. Allah is great, Allah is great, He shall cast out the impure.

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 2 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to it herewith a letter dated 1 February 1991 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, concerning the crimes that are being committed by the forces of the United States, NATO and Zionist alliance against the economic, cultural, scientific and religious institutions of the Iraqi people.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq requests the circulation of this note and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Letter dated 1 February 1991 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

On 24 January 1991, I wrote you a letter to inform you that, since the commencement of their aggression at 2.30 p.m. on 17 January 1991, the forces of the United States, NATO and Zionist alliance have been committing heinous and premeditated crimes against Iraqi citizens and against the economic, cultural, scientific and religious institutions of the Iraqi people.

In that letter I presented a long list of tangible facts concerning such crimes committed in the period from 17 to 21 January. Those facts were subsequently confirmed and reported by neutral press agencies, and were widely discussed in political and media circles throughout the world.

We find it strange that the Secretary-General of the United Nations has not expressed his view in this regard, as expected not only by the Iraqi people but by all just and free persons throughout the world, who regard the United Nations as an institution whose purpose is to defend human values. Instead, you have remained silent concerning these crimes which, for the first time in history, are being committed in the name of the United Nations and under the cloak of groundless and unjust Security Council resolutions, the most recent of which is resolution 678 (1990). The whole world is aware that those resolutions were adopted as a result of pressure, blackmail and bribery by the United States and its allies, thereby bringing shame on the Security Council, the United Nations and the countries which received bribes and yielded to United States pressure and blackmail. Your silence in the face of these crimes will merely increase the shame of the United Nations, which is now being used by the imperialist Powers to subjugate peoples, muffle their free and independent voice, impose full control over oil and perpetuate Israeli hegemony over the region. Indeed, the very goals that the United Nations is supposed to embody are being violated before the eyes and with the knowledge of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who utters not a word. Numerous free voices have denounced the crimes that are being committed against the people of Iraq, and officials of some countries participating in the aggression have protested against it and have declared that what is happening far exceeds the intended purpose of the resolutions adopted in the name of the United Nations, notwithstanding the fact that those resolutions are groundless and unjust. However, you still remain silent.

In this letter I am presenting further facts concerning the crimes that are being committed against the Iraqi people and which took place after the date of my first letter. It is a record for history, and the judgement of history is harsh and merciless.

Baghdad governorate

I. 26 January 1991.

Air bombardment in which five citizens were wounded, one of whom subsequently died.

II. 28 January 1991.

1. An air raid on residential areas in which 10 citizens were wounded.

2. Bombardment of the Radio and Television Building, in which two citizens were wounded.

III. 29 January 1991.

Bombardment of Al-Jumhouriya Bridge in Baghdad.

IV. 30 January 1991.

1. An air raid on the Central Bank, which suffered damage and in which two citizens were wounded.

2. Missile attack on the Ministry of Justice.

Salah al-Din governorate

I. 23 January 1991.

1. Time-fuse bombs were dropped on agricultural areas in the district of Balad, as a result of which one citizen was killed and two others were wounded.

2. 25 January 1991.

Air raid on residential areas on the Baghdad-Nineveh road and on Qadisiya quarter and the village of Arbida in the subdistrict of al-Alam, as a result of which five citizens were killed and nine others wounded.

Anbar governorate

I. 21 January 1991.

Bombardment of a desert area in Kebisa district, as a result of which three citizens were killed and one wounded.

II. 23 January 1991.

1. A missile fell on a house in the district of Abu Ghurayb.

2. A missile fell on al-Furat village in the district of Hit and another fell in the al-Boukamal area in the subdistrict of al-Karmah. Seven cluster bomb canisters were dropped in the district of al-Rutbah.

III. 26 January 1991.

An air raid on al-Ramadi city and the districts of al-Qaim, al-Rutbah, Haditha and Hit killed eight citizens and wounded seven others.

IV. 22 January 1991.

An air raid on al-Nakhib subdistrict killed four citizens and wounded one woman.

V. 26 January 1991.

Bombardment of the Qadisiya Irrigation Dam, which was damaged.

VI. 27 January 1991.

Air raids on al-Ramadi city including al-Ramadi city centre and the districts of al-Rutbah, al-Qaim, Haditha, Hit and the subdistrict of al-Ameriya, in which two citizens were killed and another wounded.

VII. 28-29 January 1991.

1. Air raids on al-Ramadi city centre and the districts of al-Rutbah, al-Qaim, Haditha, Hit and the subdistricts of al-Ameriya and Kebisa.

2. Air raids on 28 January 1991 on the highway between al-Qaim and Akashat, in which four Jordanians were killed and seven persons wounded, including two Jordanians and one person from Thailand.

VIII. 30 January 1991.

1. Bombardment of the al-Kindi Company for Medical Vaccines, the subdistricts of al-Nasr and al-Salam in Abu Ghurayb district and a Customs office, in which one citizen was wounded.

Dhi Qar governorate

22 January 1991.

Two citizens were wounded by a missile fired from an enemy aircraft.

Najaf governorate

23 January 1991.

Bombardment of residential areas at Najaf, Kufa and al-Manadhira.

Basra governorate

20 January 1991.

Bombardment of al-Najibiya residential area, in which 15 citizens were killed, 19 others wounded and 19 residential buildings destroyed. Four occupants of those buildings were wounded and two shops and a civilian vehicle were damaged.

Ta'mim governorate

20-25 January 1991.

An air raid on densely populated residential areas at Imam Qasim, al-Andalus, Azadi, Arafa and Bey Hasan quarters and al-Dibs district resulted in the death of 15 citizens, including 12 children and 2 women. Six citizens, including four children and a woman, were wounded.

Babil governorate

I. 23 January 1991.

1. Four missiles fired at the residential areas of the modern village in the subdistrict of Iskandariya killed 20 citizens and wounded 25 others.

2. Bombardment of residential areas in the district of al-Mahmoudiya killed three citizens and wounded four others.

II. 24 January 1991.

Two air raids on the Musayyib district, targeting residential areas at Jurf al-Sakhr, resulted in the death of two civilians.

III. 26-27 January 1991.

An air raid on the principal city in the governorate and on the districts of Musayyib and Hashimiya and the subsdistrict of Iskandariya killed eight citizens and wounded 36 others in the principal city of the governorate.

Karbala governorate

25 January 1991.

Bombardment of Karbala Cement Plant.

Arbil governorate

I. 24 January 1991.

Bombardment of houses in the principal city of Arbil governorate killed two citizens and wounded 20 others, including seven women and four children.

II. 26 January 1991.

Bombardment of residential areas in the Basterma area of Harir subdistrict resulting in the death of 13 citizens, including eight women, four children, and wounded 85 other citizens.

Wasit governorate

24-25 January 1991.

An air raid on the al-Badriya area in Wasit governorate killed two citizens and wounded another.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq
Baghdad

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Note verbale dated 26 December 1990 from the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General*

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to forward under cover of this note:

1. The final communiqué of the eleventh session of the Supreme Council of the States members of the Gulf Co-operation Council, held at Doha, Qatar from 22 to 25 December 1990 (annex I);

2. The Doha Declaration, also adopted by the above-mentioned session of the Supreme Council (annex II).

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations requests the Secretary-General to circulate the enclosed texts as official documents of the General Assembly under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/45/908.

ANNEX I

Final communiqué of the eleventh session of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council, held at Doha, Qatar, from 22 to 25 December 1990

At the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar, and with the help of God and in His keeping, the eleventh session of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council was held at Doha from 22 to 25 December 1990. The following were present:

His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates;

His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain;

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud, King of Saudi Arabia;

His Majesty Sultan Quboo Bin Said, Sultan of Oman;

His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar;

His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait.

Aggression of the Iraqi régime against Kuwait

The Supreme Council studied the grave situation in the region created by the Iraqi régime's occupation of the sovereign State of Kuwait and the threat that it poses to the security and integrity of the States members of the Gulf Co-operation Council. It considered the consequent bloodbath and displacement of innocent people, both nationals and residents of Kuwait, and the actions involving arrest, torture, looting and desecration carried out in an attempt to destroy Kuwait's identity and put an end to its existence. The Supreme Council further discussed the after-effects of that aggression and its grave consequence for the security and stability of the Gulf region and the Arab world and for international peace and security.

Renewing its vigorous condemnation of the Iraqi régime for its blatant and iniquitous aggression against the State of Kuwait and for its persistent refusal to comply with the principles set forth in the Pact of the League of Arab States, in resolution 195 of the Arab Summit Conference, in the Charter of the United Nations and in the resolutions of the Security Council relating to the aggression against the State of Kuwait, the Supreme Council affirms that the Governments and peoples of its member States will stand by the State of Kuwait in its ordeal, will support it unconditionally and will act in full solidarity with its people and Government in their holy war until complete liberation is achieved.

The Supreme Council commends the people of Kuwait in its steadfast rejection of the occupation and its loyalty to the legitimate Government under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah; it expresses its admiration of the sacrifices made by that people in the face of intimidation, coercion, maltreatment and random executions; it salutes its continued resistance and determination to vanquish the forces of evil and aggression; and it expresses its pride in the cohesion of the unified Kuwaiti family as embodied in the Kuwaiti People's Congress held at Jeddah.

The Council, bearing in mind the efforts to avert a tragedy that were made severally and collectively by its member States both before and after the iniquitous Iraqi invasion of the State of Kuwait on 2 August 1990, and recalling their sincere and earnest endeavour to reach a peaceful solution, expresses its appreciation for the good offices exercised by certain leaders of brotherly and friendly countries in an attempt to persuade the Iraqi régime to conform with inter-Arab legitimacy, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the Arab Summit Conference, and with international legitimacy, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council. It reaffirms the stand taken by the GCC countries against the Iraqi aggression, their determination to resist it and their resolve to remove all of its effects and consequences, and it does so on the grounds that an attack on any member State is an attack on all member States, that the security of the GCC countries is an integral whole and that the aggression of the Iraqi régime against the State of Kuwait constitutes aggression against all the GCC countries. The Council reiterates its call to the Iraqi leadership to respect international covenants and international custom, to honour the agreements and treaties that it has concluded with the State of Kuwait and to assume a disposition for peace in order to safeguard the accomplishments of the Iraqi people and avoid squandering the assets, capacities and blood of its sons in a confrontation that can only bring it loss and destruction. It calls upon the Iraqi leadership to begin immediately and without reservations or conditions the withdrawal of its forces from all the territory of the State of Kuwait so that the legitimate authority may be restored before 15 January 1991 and the fraternal Iraqi people and the peoples of the region and the world spared the horrors of a devastating war. The Council further demands that the Iraqi régime must respect the status of civilians and ensure the safety of their lives and property and must safeguard private and public installations and property in accordance with Islamic law, the provisions of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and the international humanitarian covenants and conventions.

The Council holds Iraq responsible for the payment of compensation for losses and damage caused by the invasion and suffered by Kuwaiti government departments and public and private banks, agencies, establishments and corporations and for the seizure and transfer outside Kuwait of their property, funds and deposits. It affirms the legal right of Kuwaitis and third country nationals who have suffered damage to receive just compensation for the loss or damage incurred by them as a result of the iniquitous Iraqi aggression.

In the framework of political and diplomatic efforts to strengthen the unanimity of the Arab and international consensus rejecting the aggression and to ensure the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Council decided to entrust to a committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of member States the task of making joint visits to the countries of States permanent members of the Security Council, a number of Arab countries and other important countries.

Recalling the principles set forth in the Muscat Declaration, adopted by the Council at its tenth session, which affirms the fundamental legal norms by which the GCC countries will be bound in their international dealings, namely the principles of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect for national sovereignty, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of States, the non-use of force or threat of use of force by States and the adoption of dialogue and negotiations as an effective means for the settlement of disputes, the Council expresses the hope that the Iraqi régime will respond to the requirements of inter-Arab and international legitimacy while it stresses, at the same time, the right and indeed the determination of the GCC countries to use all necessary means to ensure the restoration of sovereignty and legitimacy to Kuwait.

The Council expresses its appreciation and gratitude to all the Arab, Islamic and friendly countries that have stood by the truth and supported legitimacy and that have condemned the aggression and sought its reversal, in compliance with the resolutions backed by inter-Arab and international legitimacy, by responding to the request of the GCC countries to deploy their forces alongside the Gulf forces and assist them in their defensive task. At the same time, it stresses that the Arab, Islamic and friendly forces dispatched at the request of the Gulf States shall return to their own countries when the GCC countries request them to do so with the removal of the causes requiring their presence, namely the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and the threat posed to the States members of the Gulf Co-operation Council. The Council affirms that such honourable attitudes will reflect positively on the relations, in all fields, of the GCC countries with the Arab, Islamic and friendly countries in question.

Functioning of the Gulf Co-operation Council

The Supreme Council reviewed the various stages through which joint action had advanced in the political, security, military, economic and social fields. It considered ways in which co-operation and integration among member States could be advanced on the basis of the purposes and principles set forth in the GCC Statute, taking account of security developments in the region in the light of the treacherous invasion by Iraqi forces of the territory of the State of Kuwait, of the changes and developments observed in the inter-Arab arena affecting the essential character of the inter-Arab order and of the changes taking place in the world as a result of the redrawing of the international order.

The Supreme Council affirms its desire to quicken the pace of the Gulf Co-operation Council and, given their absolute conviction of their common destiny and their unity of purpose, to bring about a qualitative shift in the future collective action of its member States so as to achieve greater co-ordination, integration and cohesion among them.

The Council notes with great satisfaction the developing security and military co-operation among member States in the current difficult circumstances affecting the region as a result of Iraq's disdain for internationally endorsed values and covenants and its defiance of the will of the international community. It records its pride in the united stand taken by the GCC countries against Iraqi aggression and in their determination to resist that aggression.

In the belief that it is essential to achieve a greater degree of security and military co-operation among member States, particularly in the light of Iraq's occupation of the territory of the State of Kuwait and the threat that it poses to the security of the other GCC countries, they endorsed the recommendations made by the Ministers of Defence with regard to strengthening the self-defence capabilities of member States.

The Supreme Council reviewed the progress made by economic action and expressed its satisfaction at the achievements of joint action in that field. It affirmed its resolve to pursue such action in order to realize the aspirations of the citizens of the GCC countries and their desire to carry through the steps taken towards economic integration. For that purpose, the Supreme Council instructed the Committee on Financial and Economic Co-operation to take the necessary measures to develop new concepts of joint economic action in order to expedite the achievement of economic integration, to elaborate a programme to follow through on the establishment of a Gulf Common Market, to reach agreement on a uniform trade policy, to evaluate economic co-operation and to examine the provisions of the economic agreement and its modalities of implementation with a view to deriving from it new advantages that would enable the citizens of the GCC countries to make fresh gains in welfare and growth.

The security situation in the region

With the greatest regret, the Supreme Council notes the deteriorating security situation in the Gulf region as a result of the Iraqi régime having seen fit to invade the territory of the State of Kuwait and to bring the entire region to the brink of a devastating war without regard for the consequences for the fraternal Iraqi people, the Arab nation and the world as a whole.

Convinced that the maintenance of security and stability and the assurance of the integrity of this vital and important region of the world serves the interests of the countries of the region, the Arab nation and the world as a whole, the Council affirms its desire to do all that is possible to ensure the security and stability of the region and its constituent countries. It declares its resolve to increase the effectiveness of co-operation among the GCC countries, to strengthen their individual and collective defensive capabilities and to do everything possible to advance the interests of the security and prosperity of the countries of the region and to promote world peace. In this connection, it appreciates in particular the role being played by the Arab States that stand by inter-Arab legitimacy, and it looks forward to acting in co-ordination with them in surmounting the tragedy brought about by the iniquitous Iraqi aggression and to working alongside them in bringing about reconciliation, promoting Arab unanimity

and achieving a stronger and more cohesive inter-Arab order. At the same time, and given the prevailing climate of international reconciliation and the clear trend towards the establishment of a new world order, the GCC countries, together with the countries of the region and the Arab and international community, will strive for the elaboration of appropriate arrangements to ensure that there will be no repetition of such aggression and establish the basis to guarantee the security and integrity of the region and promote the goals of international peace and security.

The current Arab situation

The Council studied the deterioration in inter-Arab relations resulting from the Iraqi régime's mockery of Arab customs and Arab covenants and the split in Arab ranks brought about by its aggression. It called for Arab solidarity and the strengthening of confidence between members of the single Arab family, and it noted the damage caused by the iniquitous invasion to Arab capacities and capabilities to the detriment of development issues and the concerns of the Arab citizen.

In this connection, the Council stresses the importance, in order to forestall the collapse of the Arab edifice and heal the rift, of action unequivocally based on adherence in both policies and practices to the principles of respect for Arab neighbourliness, and not on interference in internal affairs, the resort to force and methods of intimidation and political blackmail, so that all material and human resources can be put to use in the service of Arab and Islamic causes and in assuring a better future for Arab citizens in all parts of the Arab world.

The GCC countries have made an effective contribution to promoting Arab development efforts at all levels - bilateral, regional and international. Given the desire of the GCC countries for the elaboration of new inter-Arab approaches to development and given their understanding of the importance of there being a common Gulf development policy in the framework of their continuing support for the economic development of the Arab countries in general, in accordance with a new concept that takes account of the contribution that such an effort can make to political stability and regional security in light of the economic difficulties caused by the Iraqi aggression against the Arab world, the Supreme Council decided to establish a programme to support development efforts in the Arab and Islamic countries basically with the aim of encouraging economic openness and the trend towards the market economy, improving Arab economic performance and mobilizing international support for the Arab development process through international funding institutions and national development assistance agencies for the benefit of national development programmes in the Arab States. The GCC countries expressed their resolve to provide the programme with the necessary resources and, accordingly, the Ministers of Finance of the GCC countries will meet next week in order to draw up detailed rules, to determine the amounts of the contributions of member States to be allocated to the programme and to establish a scale of assessments for each according to its capacities.

The Supreme Council reviewed developments with regard to the question of Palestine and expressed its concern at the negative impact on the Palestinian cause of the Iraqi aggression against the State of Kuwait. The Council recalls its previous resolutions and declarations on the issue and reiterates its commendation

of the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people in its valiant intifadah against the authorities of the iniquitous occupation and their repressive and arbitrary practices. Affirming the full support of its member States and their unconditional backing for the historic intifadah of the Palestinian people, the Council urges the international community to provide every kind of support and assistance to the intifadah and to the people of the occupied territory in their ordeal and to endeavour to expose terroristic Israeli methods, and the occupation and its tyranny and bring a halt to such arbitrary measures as the expulsion of Palestinians and the demolition of their homes, which are incompatible with the principles of human rights and in breach of international law and international covenants.

The Council welcomes the adoption of Security Council resolution 681 (1990) on the provision of international protection to the Palestinians in the occupied territories and the Security Council's call for the convening of an international peace conference on the question of Palestine. The Supreme Council reaffirms its support for the convening of the conference with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the State of Palestine, and calls for the necessary measures to be taken for its realization.

With regard to the situation in Lebanon, the Council noted with deep satisfaction the recent positive developments there and the extension by the legitimate Government of its authority over Greater Beirut and other parts of the country. The Council expresses the hope that the complete unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon will be restored. In this connection, it expresses its appreciation of the efforts made by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, by His Majesty King Hassan II and by His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid and of the constructive role played by His Excellency President Hafez al-Assad in assisting the legitimate Government of Lebanon. The Council appeals to the international community to maintain its support for the Taif Agreement.

The Council reaffirms its support for His Excellency President Elias Hrawi and its hope for the restoration of security and stability to all Lebanese territory. The Council, recalling Emergency Arab Summit Conference resolution 185, in which it was decided to establish an international fund for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon, affirms its support and backing for the fund so that Lebanon may be able to proceed with its reconstruction and play its civilizing role in the Arab and international arenas.

Relations with Iran

The Council welcomes the desire of the Islamic Republic of Iran to improve and expand its relations with all the countries of the Gulf Co-operation Council. The Supreme Council affirms the importance of vigorous and realistic action to resolve the outstanding differences between Iran and its member States so that the countries of the region may set about achieving their desired goals and utilizing their resources for purposes of overall economic development. The Council affirms its desire to establish good relations with Iran on the basis of good-neighbourliness, non-interference in internal affairs, respect for sovereignty and independence, and peaceful coexistence based on the bonds of religion and heritage that link the countries of the region.

International changes

The Supreme Council considered the report prepared by the tripartite ministerial committee to study international changes and evaluate their effects on the GCC countries. In its belief in the importance of keeping pace with the requirements of international developments so as to safeguard the interests of its member States and their peoples, the Council endorsed the recommendations submitted to it.

The Council welcomes the new spirit of reconciliation between East and West, and it expresses its satisfaction at the political and economic openness observed in the eastern half of the European continent in view of the role that it can play in and the effective contribution it can make to the promotion of world peace and the utilization of human resources for purposes of development in contrast with the squandering of wealth in burdensome and useless arms races. The Council commends the spirit of rationality in the new international intercourse based on mutual respect for sovereignty, a balance of interests and the rejection of aggression, treachery and occupation.

The Council further welcomes the reunified German Republic as a factor making for stability and an active element within the international community for the promotion of development and international change in a world in which there reigns a spirit of peace, mutual understanding, rationality and wisdom and where prosperity prevails.

The Council would like to renew the expression of its solidarity with the developing countries and its continuing support for them in their efforts to develop their economies and improve the standard of living of their citizens. It affirms that its preoccupation with the consequences of the criminal Iraqi aggression will not divert the GCC countries from continued co-operation and solidarity with the developing countries in their endeavours for the establishment of a more just and more balanced international economic order.

The Supreme Council decided to entrust the Secretary-General, Mr. Abd Allah Ya'qub Bisharah, with the task of pursuing the action in which he is engaged.

The Supreme Council expresses its great appreciation and gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, to his Government and to his people, for their generous hospitality and for the kind reception encountered by the leaders of the GCC countries and the members of participating delegations, and it commends the exemplary preparations and painstaking arrangements made both for the comfort of delegations and in order to ensure the success of the summit.

The Council looks forward to meeting, God willing, at its twelfth session, to be held in Kuwait in December 1991 at the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait.

Issued at Doha on 25 December 1990

ANNEX II

Doha Declaration adopted by the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council at its eleventh session, 22 to 25 December 1990

Events and developments at the regional level and the consequences to which the Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait have given rise require, in all fields, a closer cohesion, a more secure linkage, stronger foundations for co-operation and improved co-ordination among the States of the Co-operation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf. The Iraqi aggression has overthrown all the established principles of inter-Arab relations. It had further threatened the security and stability of the States of the region and indeed security and stability in the world as a whole. It has exposed the existence of our Arab nation and its common destiny to the gravest of dangers.

That aggression, with the rift that it has caused in Arab solidarity and the set-back that it has brought to joint Arab action, now makes it essential to elaborate a clear and integrated strategy embracing the policies that must be pursued in future if a repetition of such aggression is to be avoided and to lay a firmer foundation for stronger relations among our Arab States.

The Iraqi invasion of the fraternal State of Kuwait having revealed the inadequacy of existing security arrangements within the framework of the Gulf Co-operation Council, Their Majesties and Their Highnesses do hereby declare:

1. That they affirm their commitment to the Muscat Declaration, adopted by the Supreme Council at its tenth session.

2. That it is essential that there should be a complete withdrawal, without restrictions or conditions, of all Iraqi forces from the fraternal State of Kuwait and that its legitimate Government, under the leadership of its Amir, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah should be restored, in accordance with the resolutions of the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations.

3. That the elaboration of security and defence arrangements for the GCC countries ensuring the protection of the national security of each of the member States and the regional security of the six States members of the Gulf Co-operation Council will be carried through.

4. That they reaffirm the well-established position of principle of the GCC countries supporting the valiant Palestinian intifadah and promoting the Palestinian cause, which is the Arabs' primary cause and that for which it is incumbent on the international community to seek a just solution that will restore to this fraternal people its legitimate rights, principally its right to exercise self-determination and establish its independent State on the soil of its homeland.

5. That there will be greater political co-ordination among the GCC countries in the internal, regional, inter-Arab and international fields.

6. That economic co-operation among the GCC countries will be strengthened, in particular by:

(a) The development of new concepts of joint economic action in order to expedite the achievement of economic integration;

(b) The elaboration of a programme to carry through the establishment of a common market among the GCC countries, and agreement on a unified trade policy;

(c) The evaluation of the economic agreement with a view to deriving therefrom advantages that will achieve a balance of interests among member States and ensure that obstacles are circumvented.

7. That co-ordination among the information media in the GCC countries will be stepped up in order to cope with hostile information campaigns, and that a framework joint information plan for the GCC countries will be drawn up in order to monitor and analyse world information and guide the information media in dealing with it.

8. That support will be provided to the secretariat for the establishment of committees of experts to study the proposals made and develop them in the form of integrated plans for submission to the Ministerial Committees concerned.

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4 February 1991

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LETTER DATED 1 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to our letter of 21 January 1991 (S/22153), and in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 678 (1990), Canadian Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf region continue to participate with other members of the United Nations in military action to enforce Iraqi compliance with resolution 660 (1990) and all subsequent relevant resolutions.

Military aircraft of the Canadian Forces continue to provide air defence of multinational shipping in the Persian Gulf and to support multinational air operations. Her Majesty's Canadian ships continue to operate in the Persian Gulf in support of multinational naval operations. A Canadian military hospital is in the process of deploying to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the purpose of providing assistance to the armed forces of the United Kingdom in fulfilling its responsibilities under the Geneva Convention for the care and treatment of all casualties of war.

As you are aware, the world has recently witnessed a massive threat to the environment in the Gulf as a result of deliberate actions by Iraqi forces. Canada has despatched, at the request of Bahrain and Qatar, a team of experts to determine what assistance we might provide. Canada, working in cooperation with other countries and agencies, will do all in its power to minimize the impact of this disaster.

I should be grateful if you could have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) L. Yves FORTIER, Q.C., O.C.
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

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4 February 1991
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NOTE VERBALE DATED 31 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In accordance with instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a study concerning the economic damages and losses suffered by the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of the Gulf crisis. In the light of Security Council resolution 669 (1990) of 24 September 1990, I would be grateful if the Security Council would consider this note as soon as possible with a view to alleviating the economic difficulties with which Syria is faced.

(Signed) Dia-Allah EL-FATTAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC DAMAGES AND LOSSES SUFFERED BY THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AS A RESULT OF THE GULF CRISIS

INTRODUCTION

The Gulf crisis has had far-reaching effects on the economic and social situation of numerous countries in the region of western Asia and elsewhere in the world. The Syrian Arab Republic is one of the countries of the region which has been adversely affected by this crisis. In addition to the disastrous losses suffered by the members of the Syrian community in Kuwait in regard to their property, business interests and bank balances, the Gulf crisis has entailed substantial losses that have directly affected the State Treasury and a number of industrial institutions and individuals in Syria. These overall losses have had direct adverse consequences on the Syrian economy and, by their very nature, will probably have detrimental repercussions in the foreseeable future on a number of the country's production and service sectors.

The purpose of this study, which was prepared by a team of researchers from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, is to make an objective assessment of the economic losses and damages resulting directly from the Gulf crisis and to evaluate their effects and repercussions.

The research team wishes to express its deep gratitude and appreciation to all the officials and other persons whom it met during the preparation of the study for their sincere co-operation and help, which were highly instrumental in facilitating the completion of the study. The team is particularly grateful to Dr. Muhammad al-Imadi, the Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade, and Mr. Fathi al-Jabban, the Deputy Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade.

Sources of information

An objective assessment of the losses and damages suffered by the Syrian economy as a result of the Gulf crisis basically requires accurate statistics and reliable information. Although this principle has been respected to the greatest possible extent, in some cases the requisite estimates were obtained by indirect means based on deduction and inference. In other cases, hypotheses were adopted as unavoidable options in studies of this type.

With regard to the sources of information needed for purposes of assessment, the team relied on the publications of the Syrian Central Bureau of Statistics, particularly the Statistical Abstract published in 1990. Information was also derived from a number of official authorities in Syria, particularly the Ministries of Economy and the Interior, the Central Bank and the General Directorate of Customs. In order to obtain supplementary information, meetings were held with the head of the Syrian community in Kuwait, as well as a number of its members in various occupational categories.

Profile of the Syrian community in Kuwait

A certain degree of familiarity with the distinctive characteristics of the Syrian community in Kuwait is essential for an understanding of many of the fundamental concepts on which some of the estimates are based, particularly those derived from hypotheses. This is one of the oldest communities, which first arrived in Kuwait to further that country's development and progress when it began to invest its petroleum resources. Although the Syrian community was neither the numerically largest community in Kuwait nor the largest Syrian expatriate community, it was always characterized by a degree of economic activity that transcended the proportional number of its members in the host State or in their home country. This is obviously due to a number of considerations such as, in particular:

(a) A large proportion of the members of this community were businessmen, large and wealthy contractors owning extensive business enterprises, and craftsmen.

(b) The vast majority of the wage-earners employed by government institutions and private enterprises were highly qualified and skilled workers earning incomes that were relatively high in comparison with those received by the members of other communities.

(c) The members of this community were more closely attached to their home country than Syrian expatriates living in other countries, particularly in Europe and America. This is largely attributable to the fact that many of them left all or some of the members of their family in their home country, in which they owned real estate and property and possibly also had business interests, in addition to Kuwait's proximity to Syria.

In fact, these considerations are influential factors that must be taken into account when assessing the losses suffered by the members of the Syrian community in Kuwait, as well as the volume of their transfers and other aspects.

I. LOSSES SUFFERED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SYRIAN COMMUNITY IN KUWAIT

Information derived from numerous sources indicates that the Syrian community in Kuwait numbered more than 100,000 persons, of whom 50,000 were economically active, the remainder being family members who were not economically active. The losses suffered by these persons were estimated at about $US 9,174 million. This estimate was calculated by dividing the economically active persons into two categories:

Category 1:

Comprising 20,000 businessmen, contractors, craftsmen and other self-employed persons. Their losses in respect of their business interests were estimated at about $6,317 million, broken down as follows:

	$ million
Key money and equipment of commercial premises	2 069
Stock	2 207
Commercial vehicles	276
Reduced rates of exchange for deposits and liquid assets	1 282
Debts and lost deposits	345
Miscellaneous (stocks and bonds, etc.)	138

Category 2:

Comprising 30,000 persons working for a fixed wage in government institutions or private enterprises. The total losses of the persons included in this category were estimated at about $1,582 million, broken down as follows:

	$ million
Separation from service indemnities	517
Reduced rates of exchange for deposits and liquid assets	962
Lost deposits	103

With regard to residential property and related losses, the losses of both categories were estimated at about $1,275 million broken down as follows:

	$ million
Furniture, domestic appliances and clothing	1 034
Valuables and jewellery	172
Private vehicles	69

The per capita losses in each category were first estimated in respect of the items listed above and the total was then multiplied by the estimated number of persons who suffered loss. The average estimated per capita value in respect of each type of property or rights was multiplied by the probable proportional loss in value, which was assumed to be in the region of 60-100 per cent (see annex I).

II. ECONOMIC LOSSES

In addition to the substantial losses suffered by the members of the Syrian community in Kuwait, the crisis has entailed considerable direct losses to the State Treasury and a number of economic enterprises and individuals in the Syrian Arab Republic itself. These aggregate losses have been highly detrimental to the Syrian economy and, by their very nature, are likely to have adverse repercussions on a number of production and service sectors in the foreseeable future. These losses resulted from circumstances brought about by the crisis, particularly:

(a) The cessation of transfers and remittances from Syrians in Kuwait and the reduction in the customary levels of remittances from the other Gulf States.

(b) The non-arrival of summer visitors from Kuwait and the Gulf States and a reduction in the number of persons visiting Syria from other countries.

(c) The suspension of Syrian exports to Kuwait and a reduction, to varying degrees, in the volume of exports to the Gulf States and Jordan.

(d) A reduction in the rate of exchange of the Syrian pound against foreign currencies.

(e) A decrease in the volume of goods and passengers passing through Syria; the suspension of air traffic between Syria and Kuwait; and the resulting decline in the volume of activity at Syrian ports.

(f) The postponement of the implementation of a draft agreement that was to have been concluded between Syria and Iraq shortly before the crisis. This agreement provided for the resumption of the pumping of Iraqi oil through the Syrian pipeline to the export terminal at Banias, the supply of quantities of oil at reduced prices to Syria, and the re-opening of the borders between the two countries. The implementation of this agreement was postponed in view of the Syrian Government's compliance with the United Nations resolutions concerning the embargo on Iraq.

(g) The Syrian Government granted numerous facilities to the Syrians and Kuwaitis arriving from Kuwait, in the form of Customs exemptions, enrolment of their children in Syrian schools and universities, etc.

These circumstances have had numerous repercussions on the economic and social situation. Although they are interrelated, their end result can be summarized as follows:

(a) A decline in the country's foreign exchange earnings resulting, as already indicated, from the decline in the transfers and remittances of Syrian expatriates, the reduced income in the tourist sector, the lower volume of exports, the decline in the volume of transit trade and the suspension of the implementation of the oil agreement with Iraq.

(b) The increased cost of Syrian imports of goods and services due to the drop in the exchange rate for the Syrian pound in neighbouring markets.

(c) The reduction in the volume of exports led to a decline in production levels in enterprises that are dependent on Kuwaiti and other Gulf markets for the sale of their products, particularly enterprises in the textile, furnishings and plastics industries.

(d) The decline in the number of summer visitors and tourists led to a reduction in levels of employment in tourist enterprises, particularly restaurants, hotels, tourist resorts and tourist transport services, etc.

(e) Government service agencies, and particularly educational institutions, were faced with increased expenditure, in addition to the extra burdens placed on the State Treasury due to the exemptions and facilities granted to persons arriving from Kuwait.

(f) The rise in the rates of overt and disguised unemployment, due to the arrival of large numbers of Syrians of working age and the decline in levels of economic activity in many production and service institutions affected by the crisis.

However, in order to study the consequent damages and evaluate their economic effects and repercussions, information is needed concerning the quantitative level of the direct losses. These are reviewed below:

A. Reduction in the value of the transfers and remittances of Syrians abroad

It is difficult to make satisfactory estimates of the transfers received from Syrians abroad and of the extent to which they have declined as a result of the crisis, since these transfers, and particularly the monetary remittances, are routed through various channels. Although most of these channels are lawful, they are in no way subject to statistical monitoring by the official authorities. In accordance with the customary procedures, a Syrian or foreign national arriving in Syria has the right to bring into the country an unlimited quantity of national or foreign currency and is not required to declare the amount of Syrian currency that he is carrying, nor is he normally obliged to declare the foreign currency that he is bringing into the country, unless he intends to re-export it, in whole or in part, on his departure or to exchange it at approved State banks.

Consequently, one possible method to estimate the volume of transfers from Syrians abroad is to monitor them by type, use and final destination. With regard to type, transfers take three principal forms:

(a) Transfers in kind, namely the value of the various goods and commodities brought into the country for the personal use of the visitor or his family or as gifts for relatives and acquaintances. The value of this type of transfer can be

easily estimated by adopting a hypothetical average value for the items brought into the country by each visiting Syrian expatriate.

(b) Official drafts channelled through approved banks. However, this type of transfer constitutes only a very small proportion of the total transfers and the foreign exchange proceeds normally go to the State agencies concerned.

(c) Monetary remittances brought into the country or sent through third parties. These account for the largest proportion of the total value of transfers. The expatriate normally changes part of these transfers into Syrian currency, usually in the host country or in the markets of neighbouring countries, while retaining the larger part in the form of savings in foreign currency, which he changes as and when needed.

However, regardless of the channels through which the monetary remittances enter Syria, it is a well-known fact that, in actual practice, these transfers constitute the basic source of funds to pay for the materials, commodities and equipment imported by the private sector, since the State's current foreign trade policy is based on the principle that the provision of the foreign exchange needed to pay for private-sector imports is the responsibility of the importers themselves. This foreign exchange is obtained from two sources: (i) the proportional foreign exchange value of exports which, under the regulations in force, private-sector exporters are permitted to retain in order to import the raw materials and other production requisites that they need; (ii) the foreign exchange that they obtain from the transfers of Syrian expatriates.

Moreover, the monetary transfers and remittances of Syrian expatriates provide, in one way or another, a considerable proportion of the value of public-sector and State imports, since the public sector basically covers the value of its imports from the value of its exports and the State's foreign exchange resources. Part of these resources are derived, either directly or indirectly, from the transfers and remittances of Syrian expatriates, since some public-sector products are sold to the private sector for foreign currency. Various dues and taxes are levied on Syrian expatriates in foreign currency, in addition to the amounts of foreign currency which Syrian expatriates change at approved banks in Syria at preferential rates.

Quite apart from the above, reference must be made to the fact that some of the goods and commodities imported into the country are brought in by visitors in the form of transfers in kind from the markets of neighbouring countries and are therefore not covered by the official foreign trade statistics. The greater part of the value of these imports is undoubtedly covered, in one way or another, by the monetary remittances of Syrian expatriates.

Accordingly, the proportional decline in the volume of transfers and remittances from Syrians abroad as a result of the Gulf crisis was estimated on the basis of the following principles and hypotheses:

1. Estimated aggregate value of transfers

(a) If we assume that the proportion of the foreign exchange retained by Syrian exporters under the regulations in force is more or less equivalent to the value of the country's imports that are not covered by the foreign trade statistics, it can be affirmed, fairly reliably, that the volume of the remittances sent by expatriates and their families is equivalent to the total value of private-sector imports from all sources except Kuwait.

(b) Twenty-five per cent of the total value of public-sector imports are covered by the foreign exchange derived from the transfers of Syrians abroad.

2. Transfers from Syrians in Kuwait

(a) The Syrian labour force in Kuwait constituted 15 per cent of the total Syrian expatriate labour force. However, the transfers received from the Syrian community in Kuwait amounted to approximately 30 per cent of the total transfers from Syrians abroad. This is attributable to the distinctive characteristics and special circumstances of that community, as already indicated.

(b) The Syrian community in Kuwait accounted for 60 per cent of the total value of the private-sector imports from Kuwait. This assumption is based on the special relationships between the importers and the members of that community.

(c) The expatriates (and their families) retain in their home country an average amount of about $5,600 (approximately KD 1,600) from their monetary remittances in foreign currency.

(d) The average expatriate visits his home country once every year and, on each visit, carries with him goods and commodities, for his own use or to be given as gifts to his family and relatives in Syria, amounting to an estimated value of about $2,400 (approximately KD 700).

(e) Transfers from Syrians in Kuwait have been totally suspended and the monetary remittances from the Syrian communities in other countries have declined by 10 per cent.

(f) There has been no change in any of the factors applicable prior to the crisis.

In the light of the above-mentioned principles and hypotheses, the overall decline in the transfers and remittances of Syrians abroad was estimated at about $848 million, broken down as follows:

		$ million
1.	Value of transfers and remittances in cash and in kind from Kuwait	766
	Transfers and remittances used to finance imports	366
	From Kuwait = 15	
	From outside Kuwait = 351	
	Monetary remittances accumulated in Syria	280
	Remittances in kind	120
2.	Decline in the value of transfers from other Syrian communities	82

B. Impact of the crisis on the foreign trade sector

Syria has preferential trade relations with a number of Gulf States and also with Jordan. Like Iraq, these countries constitute traditional markets for various Syrian products, particularly textiles and foodstuffs. In 1989, the value of Syrian exports to the Gulf States and Jordan amounted to about $310 million. This amount constituted about 62 per cent of Syria's total exports to the Arab countries and 10 per cent of the value of its exports to all countries of the world. If we exclude exports to the Soviet Union, the latter figure increases to 16 per cent.

A time-series study of Syrian exports to the Gulf States and Jordan shows that the volume of these exports was increasing every year and was expected to reach a record volume in 1990, particularly after the restoration of normal relations with the Sultanate of Oman. This is substantiated by the fact that the value of Syrian exports to the Gulf States and Jordan had risen to $293 million during the first three quarters of 1990, in spite of the fact that the chronological period to which this figure relates extended two months beyond the commencement of the crisis. At all events, if matters had continued to follow their normal pre-crisis course, the value of Syrian exports to the above-mentioned States would have risen to at least $390 million, i.e. an increase of 26 per cent over and above the figure for 1989.

In fact, the importance of Syria's trade relations with the Gulf States and Jordan is not attributable solely to their relatively high volume: it is noteworthy that Syria's trade balance with those countries was in Syria's favour in a ratio of 3.5 to 1, since the value of Syria's imports from them in 1989 amounted to no more than $91 million.

During the period 1981-1989, the volume of transit trade declined from more than 14 million tonnes to less than 600,000 tonnes as a result of the rupture of relations with Iraq. The volume of such trade had been expected to increase with the resumption of normal relations between Syria and Iraq, which were once again broken off due to the crisis.

The circumstances brought about by the Gulf crisis have given rise to damage from the first day of the crisis and will continue to have a detrimental impact on foreign trade. Exports to Kuwait have stopped and exports to Jordan and the Gulf countries have gradually been falling off. This has affected in particular a number of traditional Syrian industries such as textiles, clothing and furnishings, as well as plastics, and foodstuffs such as chicken, eggs, vegetables and fruit. Furthermore, it had been expected that the normalization of relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq would lead to a record volume of Syrian exports.

On the other hand, the material and psychological conditions arising from the crisis have led to a sudden drop in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound in neighbouring countries of no less than 10 per cent, the unavoidable consequence of which has been a rise in import costs.

Thus, the damage due to the crisis has affected the three components of the foreign trade sector, which are exports, imports and transit. In the following section we shall give estimates of the direct economic losses arising from that damage in each of the three components separately.

1. Losses from exports

(a) Syrian exports to Kuwait

The value of exports to Kuwait over the first seven months of 1990 was approximately $17 million. On the basis of their monthly average, these exports were expected to reach $30 million per year. The sudden halt in exports to Kuwait caused losses to the State, exporters and producers alike. The State Treasury has been deprived of that proportion of foreign currency which exporters are obliged to exchange at official rates, or 25 per cent of the value of the exports. The market value of this currency is approximately four times greater than its nominal value, which affords the State a net surplus of 19 per cent of the value of the exports. The halt in exports to Kuwait has also inflicted a loss on exporters resulting primarily from unpaid obligations and export profits estimated at approximately 25 per cent of the value of the exports. Damage to producers has taken the form of a drop in prices for commodities made for export and similarly a fall in production levels in their enterprises, which has added to various other losses. With regard to Kuwait in particular, losses resulting from the drop in export commodity prices and the fall-off in production are estimated at approximately 30 per cent. On the basis of the foregoing, the losses resulting from the halt in exports to Kuwait for a full year are estimated at approximately $32 million, apportioned as follows:

19 per cent - losses in foreign currency to the State Treasury = $5.7 million

25 per cent - losses to exporters = $7.5 million

30 per cent - losses to producers = $19.0 million

(b) Syrian exports to other Gulf countries and to Jordan

The value of Syrian exports to the Gulf countries and Jordan, as we have indicated, was expected to reach approximately $390 million per year, of which $30 million was the expected value of exports to Kuwait. The decrease in these exports is estimated at approximately 25 per cent or $90 million. Therefore, the resulting loss is estimated at approximately $58 million apportioned as follows:

19 per cent - losses in foreign currency to the State Treasury = $17.1 million

20 per cent - losses to exporters = $18.0 million

25 per cent - losses to producers = $22.5 million

It will be noted that the loss in the value of exports used in this estimate is lower than that estimated for Kuwait because it is expected that in these cases there will be gradual adjustment to the new situation.

(c) Exports to Iraq

It is well known that there have been contacts between the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq aimed at normalizing relations between the two countries. All the indications were that the two sides had reached a draft agreement to re-open the border between them and to resume pumping Iraqi oil through the Syrian pipeline and provide Syria with certain quantities of oil at reduced prices. However, the Syrian Government's observance of the international resolutions imposing an economic embargo on Iraq has led to halting work on what had been agreed.

This observance has deprived the Syrian Arab Republic of considerable economic gains, which are now seen as economic losses. It had been expected that Syrian exports to Iraq would grow and that transit through Syrian ports would become active. Despite insufficient data with which to estimate the losses in exports resulting from the suspension of the agreement, the history of commercial relations between the two countries suggests that Iraq had always been one of the most important traditional markets for Syrian products, in particular, clothes, textiles and certain chemical industries such as soap, plastic products and foodstuffs. There is sufficient evidence to estimate the loss in exports at no less than $100 million per year.

2. Losses from imports

As we have indicated, the exchange rate of the Syrian pound has fallen by 10 per cent from its level before the crisis. This drop has had a double impact. On the one hand, it has raised the value of exports and remittances from Syrians abroad as calculated in Syrian currency. On the other hand, however, it has raised the cost of imports as calculated in Syrian currency. The consequence of these two tendencies has been a loss for the national economy estimated at approximately $150 million per year. This estimate has been arrived at on the following basis:

(a) The value of expected exports (given by the foreign trade statistics) was approximately $2,143 million. Assuming constant import levels for the year following the date on which the crisis began, the cost of imports as calculated in Syrian currency will rise by the equivalent of $214 million (an increase of 10 per cent).

(b) The value of remittances before the crisis has been estimated at approximately $1,085 million per year. It is expected that income from these remittances will fall because of the crisis by $448 million to around $637 million (see annex II). In view of the fall in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound, the increase in the value of remittances expected after the crisis as calculated in Syrian currency will be around $64 million.

(c) Therefore, the burden resulting from the drop in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound will be approximately $150 million.

It should be noted that in making this estimate it has been assumed that foreign exchange earnings from exports which have been paid for is equivalent to the value of imports on which customs duty has not been paid.

3. Losses from transit

Economic losses in the field of transit are estimated at approximately $100 million per year. This figure represents the expected decrease in the volume of transport to Arab Gulf countries, the expected traffic of goods to Iraq through Syrian ports and territory and the halting of flights to Kuwait.

C. Losses of foreign currency from tourism

The losses incurred in the tourist sector are basically due to the sudden halt in arrivals of summer visitors from Kuwait and the other Gulf countries, which took place at the height of the summer season. It is expected that this halt will remain in effect for the whole year following the beginning of the crisis. A substantial decrease is also expected in the number of tourists coming to the Syrian Arab Republic from other countries as a result of the crisis. In addition to the direct impact of these changes, which will be a drop in the country's foreign currency income, there will be all sorts of damage to the various tourist installations and individuals connected to that sector.

Total foreign currency losses resulting from the falloff in numbers of visitors to the country are estimated at approximately $454 million per year. This figure has been arrived at on the basis of the following considerations:

(a) It has been assumed that the number of visitors to the country during the year under study would remain at the same level as before the crisis, i.e. the number recorded in 1989.

(b) Despite the fact that some of the visitors to the country cannot be considered tourists in the generally accepted sense of the term, one should not

neglect the amount of foreign currency such visitors spend during their stay in the country. Therefore, for the purposes of estimation, all visitors to the country have been considered as tourists.

(c) The estimate of foreign currency losses is in fact the product of the expected drop in the number of tourist nights spent because of the crisis and the single visitor's average expenditure per night, estimated at $150. This average includes what the visitor spends on hotel rooms or furnished flats, food, drink, transport, commodity purchases and various services.

(d) The decrease in the number of tourist nights has been estimated by assuming an average number of nights for each visitor before the crisis and the expected decrease in this number because of the crisis. A distinction has been made between nationalities in the hypothetical averages and the rates of decrease (see annex III).

D. State Treasury losses from taxes and duties

The relevant authorities in the Syrian Arab Republic granted visitors from Kuwait (Syrians and Kuwaitis) numerous facilities in the form of customs exemptions and special exceptions from some of the customary rules and procedures in a number of domains. The government agencies, in particular public security, the customs and education authorities made exceptional efforts to absorb the sudden flow of visitors during the first days of the crisis. The following is a list of the facilities granted to those visitors:

(a) Visitors' cars were exempted from the customs duty, payable in foreign currency, of 115 dollars for each car for a stay of no more than four months inside the country. Approximately 15,000 tourist cars have entered the country since the beginning of the crisis.

(b) The period for which these cars are allowed to stay in the country was extended for a further year and their owners were exempted from the customs duties arising therefrom.

(c) Baggage accompanying the visitors was exempted from customs duty.

(d) Shipments of furniture and household effects were granted temporary entry and consequently no customs duty was levied on them. The number of such shipments is expected to reach approximately 2,000.

(e) Children of visitors have been given places in Syrian schools and universities and accepted provisionally until such time as they can produce the required school certificates.

(f) Kuwaiti hotel guests have been exempted from paying their hotel bills in foreign currency as an exception from the customary rules.

As a result of these exceptions and facilities, the State Treasury has been deprived of tax revenue estimated at $31 million.

Moreover, law No. 109 of 1989 required every Syrian working abroad to pay a yearly duty in foreign currency. The amount of this duty depends on the professional level of the expatriate in the country in which he works. The duty varies between $50 for an ordinary unskilled worker and $700 for a businessman, industrialist or professional. The annual revenue from this duty with regard to the Syrian work-force in Kuwait is estimated at approximately $18 million, of which the State Treasury has been deprived as a result of the crisis (see annex IV).

E. The Kuwaiti grant to the Syrian Arab Republic

As part of economic co-operation between the Syrian Arab Republic and Kuwait, the Government of Kuwait pays for Syrian imports of urea fertilizer from Kuwait, the value of which is $50 million per year. In view of current circumstances, the import of this product has stopped.

F. Revenue from the transit of Iraqi oil

As we have indicated, Syrian observance of international resolutions, which call for a halt of commercial transactions with Iraq, has led to a suspension of the agreement in principle which had been reached to resume pumping of Iraqi oil through Syria and to provide Syria with 4 million barrels of oil per year at under 50 per cent of the market price. The loss resulting from the halting of work under the agreement is estimated at approximately $360 million per year. This sum represents the expected revenue from the transit of the oil and the differential of the reduced price of Iraqi oil which the Syrian Arab Republic would have obtained.

III. INDIRECT ECONOMIC LOSSES

As is apparent from the foregoing, the total direct economic losses resulting from the Gulf crisis are approximately $2,179 million (see annex V). However, this does not account for the true damage inflicted on the Syrian economy as a result of the crisis. The economic consequences of the direct losses and the ensuing complications and psychological factors has resulted in damage and losses which are greater in volume than the direct losses inflicted on the Syrian economy. It is expected that the impact of these complications will continue for a long time, giving rise to vicious circles and new losses before government efforts are able to contain them. In the absence of sufficient data, the enumeration of these complications and the estimation of the consequent losses is impractical. However, in the light of economic laws, it is legitimate to forecast some of what may happen. For example, the decrease in foreign exchange earnings will upset the balance of payments, for which severe austerity measures had been adopted in recent years. This decrease will also affect the capacity of the economy to cover the costs of a sufficient quantity of imports into the country of raw materials, equipment and other production inputs, which in turn will have an adverse effect on production levels and employment.

One of the main inflationary effects of the crisis has been the fall in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound in neighbouring markets, which will raise the cost of imports and consequently the cost of commodities and services, in particular those which are not subject to government price controls. It will also lessen the true value of interest on bank deposits, which may affect the growth rates of the volume of deposits.

The decrease in exports will lead to a decrease in production levels in some sectors and a reduction in the growth of the gross national product. In addition to all this, the psychological impact of the crisis and the fear of not being able to contain it will curtail expansion and investment by the private sector in commodity production and service enterprises.

Annex I

ESTIMATE OF THE LOSSES OF THE SYRIAN COMMUNITY IN KUWAIT

(Millions of Kuwaiti dinars) 1/

Businessmen, contractors, craftsmen (20,000)	
Key money and equipment of commercial premises (20,000 premises x KD 30,000 x 100%)	600
Stock (20,000 premises x 40,000 x 80%)	630
Commercial vehicles (20,000 x KD 5,000 x 80%)	80
Depreciation of deposits and liquid assets (20,000 x KD 20,000 x 93%)	372
Unpaid obligations and lost deposits (20,000 x KD 5,000 x 100%)	100
Miscellaneous losses (20,000 x KD 2,000 x 100%)	40
Subtotal	1 832
Employed persons (30,000)	
Separation from service indemnities (30,000 workers x KD 500 x 10 years x 100%)	150
Depreciation of deposits and liquid assets (30,000 x KD 10,000 x 93%)	279
Lost deposits (30,000 x KD 1,000 x 100%)	30
Subtotal	459
Residential property and related losses for both categories (50,000)	
Furniture, domestic appliances, clothing (50,000 x KD 10,000 x 60%)	300
Valuables and jewellery (50,000 x KD 2,000 x 50%)	50
Private vehicles (10,000 vehicles x KD 2,000 x 100%)	20
Subtotal	370
Total	2 661

1/ The value in United States dollars should be calculated on the basis of $1 = KD 0.29.

Annex II

ESTIMATE OF THE DECREASE IN VALUE OF TRANSFERS

1.	Total value of private-sector imports except Kuwait (official statistics)	$868 million
2.	25 per cent of public-sector imports (official statistics)	$302 million
3.	Total value of exports financed by available transfers (1+2)	$1,170 million
4.	Contribution of the Syrian community in Kuwait to the above value (assumed)	30 per cent
5.	Estimated value of the contribution of the Syrian community in Kuwait to financing imports (3x4)	$351 million
6.	Total value of private-sector imports from Kuwait (official statistics)	$25 million
7.	Contribution of the Syrian community to financing these imports (assumed)	60 per cent
8.	Contribution of the Syrian community to financing imports from Kuwait (6x7)	$15 million
9.	Average individual foreign currency savings among the work-force at home (estimate)	$5,600
10.	Syrian work-force in Kuwait (estimate)	50,000 workers
11.	Value of remittances deposited at home in foreign currency (9x10)	$280 million
12.	Value of transfers in kind each year per worker in Kuwait (estimate)	$2,400
13.	Total value of transfers in kind (10x12)	$120 million
14.	Other contributions of the Syrian community to financing imports (3-5)	$819 million
15.	Decrease in remittances from other communities (assumed)	10 per cent
16.	Decrease in remittances from other communities (14x15)	$82 million

Annex III

ESTIMATE OF FOREIGN CURRENCY LOSSES IN THE TOURIST SECTOR

Nationality	Number of visitors in 1989 (thousands of visitors)	Average number of tourist nights per visitor before the crisis	Percentage decrease in the number of tourist nights because of the crisis	Decrease in the number of tourist nights because of the crisis (thousands of tourist nights)
1	2	3	4	5 = 2 x 3 x 4
Kuwaitis	14	20	100	280
Gulf Arabs	102	20	100	2 040
Jordanians and Lebanese	701	1	20	140
Other Arabs	80	5	25	100
Iranians	208	10	15	312
Turks	140	3	25	105
Other	118	2	20	47
Total	1 363			3 024

The loss in foreign currency is: 3,024 tourist nights x $150 = $453.6 million.

Annex IV

ESTIMATE OF THE LOSS TO THE STATE TREASURY FROM TAXES AND DUTIES

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Emigration duty	
20,000 expatriates x $600 + 30,000 expatriates x $200	18 000
Entry duty on vehicles	
15,000 cars x $115	1 725
Prolonged stay duty on vehicles	
15,000 vehicles x $115 x 3	5 175
Customs duties on accompanying effects	
15,000 vehicles x $1,000 x 25 per cent	3 750
Customs duties on furniture shipments	
2,000 shipments x 10,000 x 75 per cent	15 000
Educational and other administrative services (rough estimate)	5 000
Total	48 650

Annex V

TOTAL DIRECT ECONOMIC LOSSES

(Millions of United States dollars)

Decrease in transfers			
Transfers from Kuwait			
Money transfers (financing of imports)	366		
Money transfers (from savings at home)	280		
Transfers in kind (goods, presents)	120		
Subtotal		766	
Decrease in transfers from Syrians abroad elsewhere		82	
Total			848
Losses in foreign trade			
Exports			
To Kuwait	22		
To other Gulf countries and Jordan	58		
To Iraq	100		
Subtotal		180	
Imports		150	
Transit duties		100	
Total			415
Losses from tourism			
Total			454
Losses from oil			
Losses due to suspension of the Iraqi transit agreement		300	
Losses due to the differential of the reduced prices of Iraqi oil		60	
Total			360

Loss of foreign grants and aids		
Grant from Kuwait (urea fertilizer)		
Total		50
Losses to the State Treasury from taxes, duties and services		
Emigration duties	18	
Duties on importing vehicles into the country and prolonging their stay	7	
Customs duties on shipments of furniture and accompanying effects	19	
Administrative services and fees for visitors	5	
Educational services	3	
Total		52
Overall losses to the national economy		2 179

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S/22194
4 February 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 4 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to the report submitted on 22 January (S/22126) and in accordance with paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), I have the honour to inform you that since that day the Italian military forces have continued to participate in joint military actions together with the coalition forces in order to secure the implementation of resolution 660 and all pertinent subsequent resolutions of the Council.

While Italian air forces have been engaged in actions against military targets in the area, Italian naval forces, always in the framework of the coalition, have continued their mission of maritime interception, patrolling and escort in the Gulf waters.

I also wish to inform you that Italy has decided to participate in the various United Nations initiatives on behalf of the populations affected by the hostilities. Specific financial contributions have been made to that end to the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER
Ambassador

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Council of Ministers of Lebanon at its meeting on 2 February 1991.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement by the Lebanese Government, dated 2 February 1991

In accordance with the decision by the Lebanese Government to extend the authority and sovereignty of the State throughout the territory of Lebanon in order to maintain the security of the citizens and residents in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa, who are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the army; reaffirming the position of the Lebanese State and its determination to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978), calling for the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces beyond the internationally recognized borders of Lebanon; referring to the latest Security Council resolution renewing the mandate of the international forces and ensuring the success of the efforts of the Lebanese State to extend its sovereignty throughout Lebanese territory; bearing in mind the fact that the various Lebanese parties have fully committed themselves to withdraw from their positions and their centres for the benefit of the Lebanese army and refrain from any armed intervention so that the situation in southern Lebanon does not constitute a pretext for occupation and looting in the context of local disputes which do not promote the cause of liberating the territory,

The Council of Ministers has decided to send the army into southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa so that it may complete its deployment there by 7 February 1991 in order to maintain the security of the régime and extend the authority of the State.

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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and with reference to our previous letters concerning Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the latest of which is dated 31 January 1991 (S/22184), I have the honour to transmit herewith information concerning the acts of aggression carried out since that date by Israel.

On Thursday, 31 January 1991, at 0800 hours, the artillery of the Israeli occupation forces and the militia known as the "South Lebanon Army", which collaborates with the Israeli forces and is concentrated within the occupied zone, began the indiscriminate and destructive bombardment in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa of dozens of villages and of Palestinian camps, particularly, in Rashidieh, east of Sidon, Tyre and Nabatieh, causing numerous deaths and wounding dozens of persons among the civilian population.

Israeli warships participated in the bombardment of the camps in Rashidieh and the coastal zone, while Israeli helicopters fired missiles at villages. Bombs and missiles were directed at the villages of Jarjouh, Sarba, Ain Qana, Arabsalim, Ain Boussoire, Mlita, Jeba'a, Kfarmelki and the villages of east Sidon, as well as the Lebanese army barracks in Tyre and the built-up areas of Houmine El-Fawka, Houmine El-Tahta, Habbouche, Zahrani, Kfar Roummane, Deir El-Zahrani, Nabatieh and throughout the villages of the eastern area of the western Bekaa, particularly Ain Tine, Machgara, Qaraoun and Qilia.

The bombardment caused such large-scale damage to houses and property that civil defence vehicles were unable to evacuate the numerous wounded persons because of the intensity of the ground, naval and air bombardment.

The bombardment continued for the last three days, during which Israeli motorized forces entered the occupied zone and numerous Israeli combat aircraft overflew southern Lebanon and many warships cruised along the Lebanese coast between Nagoura and Sidon.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns this serious Israeli military escalation and intrusion into Lebanese territory violating the sovereignty of the Lebanese State and the security of its citizens and draws the attention of the international community to these events, which have occurred at the very time when the Lebanese State decided to deploy Lebanese Army units in the region adjacent to the occupation zone as a first step towards re-establishing its sovereignty over its territory; as usual, whenever the Lebanese State endeavours to strengthen security and stability in the country by using its regular forces, Israel strives to thwart these efforts by force in accordance with its unremitting policy of destroying Lebanon by undermining the stability and security of the country in general and of southern Lebanon in particular.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 4 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and has the honour to transmit the text of the letter of resignation from the French Minister of Defence, Mr. Jean-Pierre Chevènement, as published by the French newspaper Le Figaro in issue No. 14443 of 30 January 1991, and requests the Secretariat to have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Annex

[Original: French]

Letter of Resignation

"Mr. President,

"A certain conception of the Republic has led me to request you to release me from the duties which I had the honour to be entrusted with by you.

"It seems to me that the basic reasons which I explained to you at the beginning of December have been borne out in all their force by events today. I would add that the logic of war may lead us every day farther from the objectives laid down by the United Nations.

"Kindly be assured, Mr. President, of my high esteem and loyal sentiments."